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Urban District of Wirksworth

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

for the year

1952

W. S. G. Christie, M.B., Ch.B.
Medical Officer of Health

J. Taylor, F.F.S. (Eng.), M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inspector

WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:-

1 9 5 2.

Chairman of Council:-	Councillor J.F. Slater, J.P.
Vice Chairman :-	Councillor L.A. Doxey, J.P.
Members:-	Councillor R. Brewer.
	" W.H. Doxey.
	" S.B. Fearn.
	" A. Hallows.
	" N. Harrison.
	" J. J. Slack.
	" Miss A. V. Stafford.
	" G.H. Thompson.
	" W. Wheatcroft.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.
(a) Dr. W.S.G. Christie, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector
(a) J. Taylor, F.F.S.(Eng.), M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Water Bailiff
W. Webber.

Clerk.
Miss E. M. Prince.

Rodent Operator.
Mr. Wm. Doxey (Foreman).

(a) Salaries contributed to under Exchequer Grants.

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WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1952.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the
Wirksworth Urban District Council.

I have the honour of presenting to you, my annual report for the year 1952.

Wirksworth, thirteen miles from Derby, in the centre of the Midlands, was in years gone by, a busy centre of lead mining. It is within easy reach of some of the finest scenery in the country, and the surrounding district is predominently agricultural and largely milk-producing. The sub-soil is of limestone and limestone quarrying forms one of the principal industries of the place. Employment is also provided by local tape weaving, hosiery and garment factories.

The following are particulars of General and Vital Statistics pertaining to the district.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) 4,015.
Population: Census (1939) 4,822.
R.G. figures (1944) 4,514. (1945) 4,550. (1946) 4,643.
(1947) 4,684. (1948) 4,850. (1949) 4,875.
(1950) 4,897. (1951) 4,859. (1952) 4,902.
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1,649.
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers, 1,652.
This figure is variable owing to the post-war movement of population, and only a survey of the entire district would find out the exact population and separate families.
Rateable Value, £24,580.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £95.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			Total	Males	Females
Live Births	- Legitimate	-	81	46	35
	Illegitimate	-	5	4	1
Still Births	- Legitimate	-	-	-	-
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	-
	Birth Rate	-	Live Births 17.5 Still Births Nil.		
Deaths		-	62	29	33
	Death Rate 12.8				

No. of Women dying in/or in consequence of childbirth - 1
From Sepsis - Nil. From other causes - Nil.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

		M	F		
Total - 2 Legitimate.	-		2	Illegitimate -	0
Infantile Death Rate	-				23.3

England and Wales -	Infantile Death Rate		27.6	
	Birth Rate, Live	-	15.3	Still - 0.35
	Death Rate.	-	11.3	

Deaths from Infectious Diseases :-

Deaths from Measles 0
" " Whooping Cough 0
" " Diarrhoea (under two years of age) 0
" " Scarlet Fever 0
" " Diphtheria 0
" " Influenza 0
" " Pneumonia 2
" " Poliomyelitis 0

COMPARABILITY FACTORS.

Births.	Deaths
1.08	0.96

Deaths from other causes:-

Deaths from Diabetes 1
" " Cancer 9
" " Vascular Lesions of the nervous system 13
" from Coronary Disease Angina 5
" from Other Heart Diseases 13
" " Nephritis 0
" " Accidents 5
" " Syphilitic Disease 0
" " Other Circulatory Disease 1
" " Bronchitis 4

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths therefrom.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1	1							
5								
10								
15								
20	1							
25	1	1						
35								
45								
55								
65 & upwards								
Totals.	3	1						

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGUALTIONS 1925.

No action has been taken under these Regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

No action has been necessary under this section during 1952.

The notification of Tuberculosis appears to be satisfactory.

Other Infectious Diseases notified (other than Tuberculosis) are shown in the following table:-

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	None	None	None
Scarlet Fever	3	2	"
Diphtheria	None	None	"
Enteric Fever	"	"	"
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	"
Puerperal Pyrexia	None	None	"
Pneumonia	8	"	"
Measles	11	"	"
Chickenpox	252	"	"
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	None	"	"
Erysipelas	"	"	"
Encephalitis Lethargica	"	"	"
Acute Polio-Myelitis	"	"	"
Whooping Cough.	9	"	"

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Notified	Treated in Hospital	Vision	Deaths
None	-	-	-

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

HOSPITALS:

The local Maternity Hospital under the Number 2 Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board now functions as an 18 Bedded Maternity Hospital and draws its cases from a wide area.

The Royal Infirmary, Women's Hospital, Children's Hospital and City Hospital, Derby under the No. 1. Hospital Management Committee of the same Regional Board, take cases from this district and admissions are conducted on a bed-bureau system.

1. Professional Nursing in the Home.
   (a) General Nurse:- one, under the supervision of the County Authority.

2. Midwifery:
   (b) One Midwife:- under the supervision of the County Authority.

3. Clinics and Treatment Centres.
   (a) Maternity - (1) At Wirksworth Maternity Hospital for Hospital cases only.
   (2) Centre at Matlock, under the control of the County Authority.
   (b) Child Welfare - Centre at Wirksworth, under the control of the County Authority.
   (c) School Clinics - Centre at Wirksworth, under the control of the County Authority.
   (d) Tuberculosis Clinic - Centre at Matlock, under the control of the County Authority.

4. Other Hospitals for the District
   (a) Tuberculosis - Derbyshire Sanatorium, Nr. Chesterfield.
   (b) Maternity - Accommodation is provided at Darley Hall Maternity Hospital, Darley Dale, Matlock.
   (c) Infectious Cases - These are now allocated through the Bed Bureau to the Derwent & Draycott Isolation Hospitals.

5. Ambulance Facilities.
   (a) Ambulance stationed at Matlock - nearest.
   (b) Derby and District Ambulances available when necessary

LABORATORY WORK

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are made by the County Council Bacteriological Department.

Number of Specimens sent to the County Laboratory by private practitioners during 1951.

	Positive	Negative	Total
Diphtheria	None	None	0
Enteric Fever	"	"	0
Phthisis	1	"	1
Miscellaneous	None	"	0
TOTALS	1	None	1

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This service continues to be carried out by the General Practitioners of the area. Children of School age can be treated at School Clinics by the School Medical Officers on request, and the "under five" children can also have treatment at the Child Welfare Clinic.

Vaccination.

This service also, is carried out by the General Practitioners of the area.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

	Date of Adoption
Infectious Disease (prevention) Act, 1890	6th December 1893
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890 Part 111 (Subject to certain conditions as to Sects. 35 and 38 Order L.G.B. No. 59992 of 22nd January, 1913).	5th March, 1913
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907. (subject to certain conditions as to Sects. 25, 27 and 30 Order L.G.B. No. 63662, 29th May, 1915)	12th July, 1915

Bye-laws :-

New Streets and buildings	-	1939
Common Lodging Houses	-	1879
Nuisances	-	1879
Cleaning Footways, Removal of House Refuse and Cleaning Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.	-	1879

Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1949 for securing the observance of Sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of Food etc.	10th July, 1950
Shops Acts, 1912 - 28	25th August, 1930
do. 1934	26th November, 1934
Offensive Trades Order of L.G.B. No. 63721, of 18th June, 1915 confirming Council's Order of 26th April, 1915, containing list of offensive trades.	26th April, 1915.
Chicken Pox Compulsory Notification Order for Compulsory Notification.	22nd February, 1926

Public Health Act,1925, Parts 11 to 1V, except Sections 21,22 & 44. 2nd May,1927.

Shops Acts,1934, came into operation by adoption 1936.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Both the quality and quantity of the water supplies for the Middleton and the Wirksworth Areas have been satisfactory once again during the year 1952, and the actual results of all samples taken by the Sanitary Inspector and submitted for Bacteriological Examination are set out in the Inspector's portion of this report.

Unfortunately I have to report that the proposed new Borehole at Hanson Farm, Longway Bank, Wirksworth, (referred to in my last year's report) has proved to be a failure. Although the Imperial Chemical Industries Explosives Department fired shots down this Borehole with the intention of breaking up the closely grained strata and thus ensuring a steady flow of water into the Borehole, these attempts did not produce water. Following this, further attempts at blasting in the Borehole were made with local labour, but these also were abortive and reluctantly the Council decided to abandon the Borehole Scheme.

The Council are now seeking alternative sources of additional supplies.

Meetings between the Council, the Agricultural Executive Committee and Farmers took place on a number of occasions during 1952, with regard to the provision of water supplies to outlying farms, but as all the farmers and other persons concerned did not give their consents to contributions towards the cost of this scheme, it has not borne fruition.

No further progress has been made with regard to the Council's Consulting Engineers preparing a larger scheme for the supply of water to the Rural parts of the Urban District or alterations and improvements to the existing undertaking. This matter was mentioned in last year's report.

In my opinion it is imperative that with the continued growth of the Town, additional sources of water supply must be secured, and I cannot stress this matter too strongly.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During 1952 the new £30,000. 0. 0. Extension Scheme to the Derby Road Sewage Works, Wirksworth, was completed and the official opening of the New Works took place on the 10th of April,1952, attended by Representatives of the Trent River Board including Dr. Clay of the Pollution and Fisheries Department.

The Council now possess a modern Sewage Outfall Works capable of dealing with the whole of the Sewage from Wirksworth and Middleton and allowing for future growth of the Town.

Referring to my last year's report, I would add that in 1952 the work was completed on the relaying of certain lengths of low gradient sewer to new falls and in addition a number of storm water overflows were re-designed and re-constructed.

Work commenced on the New Main Derby Road Housing Site and separate Foul Sewers and Surface Water Drains were laid, allowing for future development of this large site for some years to come. In order to alleviate the already overburdened Main Sewers a new Foul Sewer was laid from this site to a point very near the Sewage Outfall Works.

HOUSING.

Council Houses.

The new Council Housing Schemes which were in course of preparation when I wrote my 1951 Report, were commenced early in 1952 and good progress was maintained throughout the year. The following tables show the total number of new Council Houses and Private Houses completed during 1952:-

Wirksworth	(a)	Adam Bede Crescent	- 20
	(b)	Nether Gardens	- 24
	(c)	Steeple Grange	- 12
		Total =	56

Private Housing.

The following table indicates the number of houses and bungalows erected by Private Enterprise during the year 1952:-

	2 Houses.
	2 Bungalows.
	1 Semi-Bungalow
Total	5

LEGISLATION.

Any new legislation, i.e. Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws relating to the public health which came into force during the year -

Nil.

GENERALLY.

Once again there has been relatively little infection in the area, and certainly nothing of a really serious nature. There were only two deaths from Infectious Disease, namely Pneumonia. Deaths resulted mainly from Vascular Lesions and Cardiac Disease. This may be due in some degree to the heavy type of work undertaken in the district, and to the rather hilly condition of the area.

It is gratifying to note again the absence of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever. I would like to stress once more, the importance of Immunisation against Diphtheria, which has proved itself such a powerful weapon in combating this dread disease. I feel there is a risk of complacency, and a tendency to ignore this precaution. In order to stamp out Diphtheria, it behoves parents of young children to be ever ready to avail themselves of this protection, and those engaged in the administration, to do all in their power to see that the scheme is worked to its fullest capacity.

Tuberculosis continues to take its toll, and although vast strides have been made in early detection, and more effective treatment methods are being instituted, there is, I feel, a great need for increased Sanatorium accommodation, in which modern methods of treatment can best be applied.

The housing programme, as shown by the lists of applicants, appears fully justified, and continues apace. In this connection, I feel there is urgent need for more consideration to be shown the owners of rent-restricted properties. With material and labour costs at the present-day high level, proper maintenance is impossible, and much good property is falling into decay.

Although our water supply, under normal conditions, has so far been sufficient for our needs, I do feel, as I have already stressed, that our demands on it are ever increasing, and some further source must be found. Of this, I know you are now fully aware, and are giving this important matter your earnest consideration.

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council for their interest and co-operation in matters of Public Health. To the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Taylor, ever ready and willing to assist, and to the staff associated with me in this work, I tender my sincere thanks.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

W.S.G. CHRISTIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1952.

SANITARY INSPECTOR:- J.Taylor,F.F.S.(Eng.) M.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wirksworth Urban District Council.

Madam and Gentleman,

Once again I have the honour and pleasure of presenting to you my Annual Report. This report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions which I have received from the Ministry of Health under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926, and it closely follows the pattern of my last year's report in order to comply with the Ministry Circular 2/53. It represents the seventh report which I have prepared and submitted to the Ministry on behalf of the Wirksworth Urban District Council.

During the year three new Council Housing Sites were completed, as will have been observed from the Medical Officer's Report; namely the Nether Gardens Site (24 houses), the Adam Bede Crescent Site (20 houses), and the Steeple Grange Site (12 houses), and this brought the total number of Council H uses constructed since the War to 187, which I think is a very gratifying figure for an Urban District of this size.

Now that the small sites throughout the area have been finally completed with Roads, Sewers and all Services, it is the Council's intention to concentrate all their future building on the large new Main Site at Derby Road, Wirksworth. New Main Foul and Storm Water Sewers have been completed to this site externally, and in addition the internal Roads, Sewers and Water Mains have been laid to provide for building on the South-east portion of this site. The first portion of development consisting of 14 Houses plus 2 Flats and three Shops was commenced during the year under review, and it is anticipated that early in the new year a start will be made on a further portion of development consisting of an additional 24 Two Bedroom Houses.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1952.

WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

Name of Inspector - J. Taylor, F.F.S. (Eng.) M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Estimated Population 4,902
Estimated No. of Houses - 1,649.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION:	No. on Register.	Increase or Decrease.	Inspections made.
Bakehouses	3 (one not in use)	1	4
Canal Boats	-	-	-
Common Lodging Houses	-	-	-
Dairies	3	2	31
Factories and Workplaces	29	1	24
Houses Let in Lodgings	-	-	-
Ice Cream Premises	16	2	119
Market Stalls	28	1	52
Milk Distributors	5	3	65
Moveable Dwellings (a) sites	1	Not registered and removal secured.	1
(b) Dwellings	1	After Court Action.	1
Offensive Trades	-	-	-
Outworkers	1	4	1
Preserved Food Stores	6	-	7
Shops	78	1	148
Slaughterhouses (With temporary licences)	3	-	3
Knackers Yards	-	-	-
Swimming Baths	-	-	-

SAMPLING.		No. of Samples taken.	Meth.Blue Sat.	Meth.Blue Unsat.	Phosphatase Sat.	Phosphatase Unsat.
Ice Cream		118	114	4		
Milk	(a) Routine	41	39	2	40	1
			Positive		Negative	
	(b) Biological	1	-		1	

Results

	Turbidity Sat.	Turbidity Unsat.
	-	-

		No. of Samples taken.	Sat.	Unsat.
Water	(a) Mains	51	45	6
	(b) Other Sources.	2	2	-
	(c) Swimming Baths.	-	-	-

DRAINAGE.		Estimated Polulation Involved.
No. of Houses in District connected to sewers.	1591	4737
No. of Houses not connected to sewers.	58	165
No. of connections made during year:-		
(a) existing houses	-	-
(b) new houses	61	
(c) other premises	Nil	
No. of conversions of other closets to W.C.s.		8

(2) STATISTICS FROM VALUATION LIST.

It is suggested that the following list of statistics will be of interest to the Council and these have been amended to date:-

1. DOMESTIC.

	No. of Hereditaments.	R.V.
(a) R.V. not exceeding £10	1012	6285
(b) R.V. exceeding £10 but not exceeding £13	195	2366
(c) R.V. exceeding £13 but not exceeding £20	302	4647
(d) R.V. exceeding £20	76	2086
2. COMMERCIAL.		
(a) Shops	79	1771
(b) Other premises	47	1094
3. PUBLIC UTILITY	7	2700
4. INDUSTRIAL	23	1556
5. MISCELLANEOUS	102	2075
Totals =	1,843	£ 24,580

(3) No. of houses converted from Pail Closets, Privies, etc., to Water Closets during the year 1952 - 8.

No. of Pail Closets etc. converted to Water Closets during the past ten years.

Years	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
No.	5	2	Nil	3	2	10	19	5	8	8

Approximate Number of houses at 31st December, 1952 with:-

(a) Privy Middens - 52
(b) Pail Closets - 89
(c) Water Closets - 1508

HOUSING.

Underlying the figures on Housing Statistics as set out in the following table, there is the ever present contest between rising costs of maintenance and repair on the one hand and restricted rents on the other, and the results obtained in the repair of old properties have not been secured without a volume of writing, talking and persuading of owners to carry out these essential repairs. Whilst the Rent Restriction Acts remain as they are, I am afraid that all Sanitary Officers throughout the country will continue finding themselves in this unenviable position which has certainly grown worse each year since 1946. Believe me, it is to-day a very tricky problem to secure equity between Landlord and Tenant without the question of housing repair costs raising its head.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

W.S.G. CHRISTIE, M.B. Ch. B.,

(PART TIME, HALF SALARY CONTRIBUTED).

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

J. TAYLOR, F.F.S. (Eng.) M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(FULL TIME. HALF SALARY CONTRIBUTED.)

HOUSING.

No. OF HOUSES ERECTED DURING YEAR 1952:

1. By Private Enterprise - 5

2. By Local Authority - 56

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.) 181

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 430

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. 4

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 19

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to Health as to be unfit for human habitation. 4

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 177

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 156

3. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 11, 12 and 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT 1936:- -

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. -

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. -

(3) (a) Number of houses demolished in anticipation of formal procedure under the Housing Act, 1936. -

(b) Number of dwelling-houses where undertakings were accepted. -

(4) Number of premises in respect of which Closing Orders were made. 4

4. HOUSING ACT,1949. PART 11.

(1) Number of applications for improvement grants approved - Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses improved during the year - Nil

5. COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the area.

6. TENTS, VANS AND TEMPORARY STRUCTURES.

The Council have once again continued to exercise strict control through the whole of their area during the year with the result, that there has been no growth of undesirable unlicensed dwellings or sites within the boundaries of the Urban District.

Referring to my report of 1951, it will be observed that I mentioned the Matlock U.D.C. were contemplating further Court Action against the one moveable dwelling on the Northern outskirts of the Wirksworth Urban District. I am happy to be able to report that in the year under review the removal of this dwelling was officially secured and the site, which had been a trouble to the Wirksworth Council for some years, was finally cleared.

7. INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

During the year 1952 only 3 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in the Urban Area and in each case the necessary disinfection was carried out by my Staff. I know that I am voicing the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, in addition to my own, when I state that every effort should be made to remove such cases to Isolation Hospital and to dissuade parents from keeping their children at home. An instance of this kind arose during the year and caused no little trouble to all parties concerned.

Precautionary terminal disinfection was as usual carried out in respect of any other types of disease whenever the Medical Officer of Health so directed me - 4 cases in all receiving such attention.

8. DISINFESTATION.

Once again no cases of bed-bug infestation were brought to my notice during the year.

As in previous years complaints were received from time to time regarding infestation of old properties with woodworm and the death watch beetle and in all instances the occupants were given the necessary advice and instructions on how to deal with these pests.

The Council's Powder Blowers and Insecticide Sprayers were used whenever necessary with gratifying results.

9. WATER SUPPLY DURING THE YEAR, 1952.

MONTH	RAINFALL 1950 inches	RAINFALL 1951 inches	RAINFALL 1952 inches	YIELDS OF SPRINGS IN GALLS. PER HOUR 1952.
January	1.04	3.00	3.37	11,200
February	6.10	3.98	1.13	9,000
March	1.52	4.67	2.31	8,625
April	3.15	2.37	2.50	6,615
May	1.43	2.73	2.95	5,460
June	1.62	1.50	2.64	5,625
July	2.74	0.76	1.54	4,500
August	4.08	5.71	2.62	3,600
September	4.17	2.73	2.28	3,000
October	1.04	0.88	4.45	2,600
November	4.72	8.43	1.92	2,900
December	2.10	3.38	3.05	3,500
TOTALS	33.71	40.14	30.76	

(i) (a) I have continued to take monthly samples of Public Water Supplies from both the Wirksworth and the Middleton Areas throughout the year, and once again the quality of the various supplies has been maintained, any unsatisfactory samples being due to the open reservoirs and not to the actual sources of supply. The Council's Water Bailiff has continued to carry out chlorination of the supplies whenever necessary during the warmer months of the year, but he has not found this to be essential during the Winter months.

(b) Despite the growth of the District it was not necessary to turn off water at any time during 1952, and my thanks in this direction are due to the Water Bailiff (Mr. Wm. Webber) for his attention to plant and mains. As my Council are well aware, the time is rapidly approaching when the present sources of supply may be inadequate during Summer months for a Town of this size and various additional sources of supply are being actively pursued by the Council's Water Committee.

(ii) Fifty-one samples in all were submitted by me during 1952; of these Forty-five were satisfactory, and six unsatisfactory. Herewith are a few selected typical results of analysis taken throughout the year and I reproduce them for your information.

Lab. Ref.No.A.1611/51

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Public Health Laboratory.

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority: Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Sample: The Basin, The Green, Middleton.

Date of Receipt: 2.1.52. Age in Hours 1¼.

CL. WELCHII: Not Done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B. Coli = - - - per 100 ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 4. 1. 52. J.L.G. IREDALE.

County Bacteriologist.

Lab. Ref. No.A.2017/51.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Public Health Laboratory.

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority: Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Sample: "Amber Cottage", Main Street, Middleton - Tap over sink.

Date of Receipt: 13.3.52. Age in Hours 1.

CL. WELCHII: Not Done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B. Coli = - - - per 100 ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 15.3.52. J.L.G. IREDALE.
County Bacteriologist.

Lab. Ref. No.A.355/52.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Public Health Laboratory.

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority: Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Sample: "Thorntree House," Cromford Road, Wirksworth.

Date of Receipt 5. 5. 52. Age in Hours 1½

CL. WELCHII: Not Done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of, coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B. Coli. = per 100 ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 9. 6. 52. J.L.G. IREDALE.

County Bacteriologist.

Lab. Ref. No.A.981/52.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Public Health Laboratory.

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority : Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of sample: Town Hall, Wirksworth - Tap over sink.

Date of Receipt: 16.9.52. Age in Hours ¾

CL. WELCHII: Not done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B. Coli. = - - - per 100 ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 18.9.52. J.L.G. IREDALE.

County Bacteriologist.

Lab Ref.NO.A.1507/52.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Public Health Laboratory.

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority: Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Sample: Town Hall, Wirksworth.

Date of Receipt: 17.12.52. Age in Hours ¾.

CL. WELCHII: Not Done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil. per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B. Coli = - - - per 100 ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 19.12.52. J.L.G. IREDALE.

County Bacteriologist.

(iii) Plumbosolvent Action - It is not necessary in this Urban Area to take any precautionary measures in respect of plumbosolvent action with regard to present sources of supply.

(iv) The only unfit samples taken during the year were those six to which I have already referred in paragraph 2, and once again the trouble can be attributed to the open reservoirs; suitably cleaning out and dosing with chloros being the only remedy available.

(v) APPROXIMATE FIGURES FROM INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

(a)	Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from Public Water Mains direct to houses	1568
(b)	Number of Population supplied from Public Water Mains direct to houses	4648
(c)	Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from Public Water Mains by means of stand pipes	22
(d)	Number of Population supplied from Public Water by means of stand pipes	66

(10) REFUSE COLLECTION.

Despite labour difficulties(and I might add here that these difficulties are causing great trouble in many large towns) it was possible throughout the year to maintain a weekly collection of household and trade refuse. This weekly collection has been carried out at all times with the exception, of course, of holidays and in addition periods of heavy snow. The Council are aware that on these latter occasions the work of refuse collection has to remain in abeyance and the Council's vehicle is used for snow ploughing.

In addition to the work of refuse collection, a weekly collection of pail and privy closets was also maintained. The Wirksworth Town Refuse continues to be dealt with at the Hopton Refuse Tip and the Middleton-by-Wirksworth Refuse at the Middleton Tip. It was necessary during the year to extend the boundaries of the Hopton Lane Refuse Tip and on surveying the site it is truly amazing to realise how much refuse is removed in one year from a town the size of Wirksowrth.

Cost of Refuse Collection and disposal for 1952.

Total cost for Whole Year.	Cost per House for whole year £. s. d.	Cost per Head for whole year. £. s. d.
£1586. 16. 3	19 2.8	6. 5.68

TOTAL COST PER HEAD PER WEEK FOR WEEKLY REFUSE COLLECTION:- 1.49d per week.

Gorsey Bank Tip.

The Council will recall that in 1947 the tipping of refuse on this site was entirely discontinued. From time to time since that date great inconvenience and trouble had been caused in times of heavy storms due to flooding of this old tip. The reason for this was due to the fact that some years ago the streams which ran through the tip had been culverted, thereby causing a bottle-neck. In December, 1951, flooding re-occurred and surrounding Mills and other properties were flooded causing great inconvenience and all the attendant damages usually connected with such floods. It was realised that drastic action had to be taken and one of the Council's Contractors was instructed to utilise mechanical excavators, draglines and bulldozers in order to completely cut away a portion of this old tip with the object of leaving a large open river-bed throughout its whole length.

This work was carried out most efficiently and was completed early in 1952 at a cost of £638. 13. 4.

Since that time, despite very heavy storms, there has been no re-occurrence of the old flooding dangers.

(11) ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Following the eradication of the one source of smoke pollution trouble, to which I referred in my last year's report, no other cases whatsoever have arisen during the year 1952 and therefore, no action has been necessary in this respect.

Unfortunately another source of trouble has arisen and recently become more acute. I am referring, of course, to the dust nuisance from certain quarries in the Wirksworth and Middleton Districts. Inspections have been made with the Town Planning Officer and meetings have taken place between Quarry Owners and the Council, and my Council have been assured in one instance that the necessary dust extraction plant to remedy this trouble has been placed on order. Delivery of such plant is, of course, a matter of some delay, but it is hoped that during next year improvements will have taken place.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919. INFESTATION ORDER, 1942, AND PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Your Rodent Operator, Mr. Wm. Doxey, has continued to carry out very good work in this direction during the year 1952, and throughout the whole of the period we have worked in the closest co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries whose Divisional Rodent Inspector, of course, visits the area from time to time. The Council will, I am sure, be pleased to know that Mr. Mulligan (the Divisional Inspector) is very satisfied with the work carried out in your area. I reproduce below the official report which I have rendered on your behalf to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on the work carried out for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

Form PDP/R.2.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949. REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1952.

NAME OF LOCAL AUTHORITY WIRKSWORTH U.D.C. (COUNTY) Derby.

		Type of Property.			
		Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural.	All other (including Business & Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 & 2)		8	1551	35	253	1847
II. Number of properties inspected by the local Authority during 1952 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	(a)	-	1	-	-	1
	(b)	8	192	10	55	265
III. Number of properties (See Section II) found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	3	9	-	1	13
IV. Number of properties (See Section II) found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 and 3)		-	-	-	-	-
V. Number of infested properties (See Sections) III and IV) treated by the Local Authority Notes 1, 2 & 3)		9	9	-	1	19
		Note:-	These include		Re-treatments.	
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:- (1) Treatment		-	-	-	-	-
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)		-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural.	All other (including Business & Industrial)	Total
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. Legal Proceedings (see overleaf)	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out Nil					

NOTES.

Note 1 (a) With the exception of agricultural properties a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area. (b) Only properties devoted to agricultural or horticultural production, in respect of which returns are made under the Agriculture Act, 1947, should be entered as agricultural properties.

Note 2 (a) Council houses should be entered in Column (2)
(b) Premises used by Local Authority for the purposes of trade should be entered in Column (4)
(c) Sewers should not be included.
(d) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Column (4). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Columns (2 and (4).

Note 3 For the purpose of completing Sections 11, 11, 1V and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

V111. Where legal proceedings have been instituted by the local Authority brief particulars should be given:-

1) No Statutory Action was found to be necessary throughout the period under review.

Remarks:-

Note:- 1) Increase in Number of Dwelling Houses and Business and Industrial Premises due to new buildings erected during the year.

2) It is gratifying to note that further to my report of last year regarding the treatment of Hopton Lane Tip with Warfarin, this tip has had permanent baiting points established and it still remains clear.

3) In addition to the Council Foreman having been trained by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in Rodent Control, it was found possible to arrange for another of the Council's Employees (Mr. J. Sheldon) to receive training at an approved Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Course during the year under review.

Signed on behalf of the Authority J. TAYLOR.
Designation - Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Date :- 12th February, 1953.

FOOD AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Once again all meat for the Wirksworth Urban District continued to be supplied through the Central Abbatoir at Derby and it is again not possible therefore to complete the table set out in the form Para.8 of the Ministry of Health's Circular 42/51.

I have received no official complaints regarding the quality of meat delivered to the local butchers during the year 1952.

Inspection of Food Preparation Rooms in your area have proved that a good standard has been maintained.

On one occasion towards the end of the year I had to draw the attention of the Manager of the Wholesale Meat Supply Association to the unsatisfactory manner in which meat was being delivered to the Wirksworth District. Carcases of meat had been seen piled one on top of the other and the Attendant was moving amongst these carcases and thereby contaminating the same with his boots. The attention of the Wholesale Meat Supply Association Manager was directed to this point and he was requested to ensure that the hooks and hangers in the Vans were properly used, in order that no overloading with meat should take place. A report was received from the Manager who assured the Council that meat vans delivering to Wirksworth Butchers would not be overloaded and he trusted that no cause would arise for further complaints.

14. FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

1) Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) Returned to R.G.

1st Quarter - Nil 2nd Quarter - Nil 3rd Quarter - Nil
4th Quarter - Nil
Total = Nil

2) Outbreaks due to Identified Agents.

Total Outbreaks - Nil. Total cases - Nil.

Outbreaks due to:-

(a) Chemical Poisons - Nil
(b) Salmonella Organisms - Nil
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin) Nil
(d) Cl. Botulinum - Nil
(e) Other bacteria-Nil

3) Outbreaks of undiscovered cause.

Total outbreaks - Nil Total cases - Nil.

4) Single Cases

Agent identified - Nil Unknown cause - Nil Total - Nil

5) Number of Deaths :- Nil.

15.

DAIRIES
FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK AND DAIRIES) ACT.
MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.1949.

Routine sampling of milk has been carried out by me during 1952, and in all 41 samples have been submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination. Of these, 39 were pronounced satisfactory under the Methylene Blue Test and 2 unsatisfactory; whilst 40 were pronounced satisfactory under the phosphatase test and one unsatisfactory. In addition, one bacteriological sample was submitted and this was pronounced negative by the County Bacteriologist.

During the year I have spent much time and correspondence upon two matters which gave me some concern. First, the sale of raw Channel Island Milk in Pasteurised Bottles, and secondly with regard to complaints received of milk being delivered two or three days old. Whilst the delivery of old milk may not be quite so important during the cold weather, if this practice continues during the Spring and Summer months, then the Public will have just reason to complain regarding sour milk.

After joint action with the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the County Borough of Derby, I have succeeded in arranging for all Channel Island Milk to be distributed in plain bottles. With regard to the second item of complaint noted above, I have taken up the question with all retailers of bottled milk in the area requesting their co-operation and in addition have contacted the General Manager of the Dairy concerned.

I hope that during the coming year my efforts will prove to be of some avail in this direction.

16.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following results and particulars of samples taken in this district or behalf of my Council by the Derbyshire County Council Food and Drugs Authority have once again been supplied to me by the County Analyst, Mr. R.W. Sutton, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.C.S.

"Thirty-five samples, including 13 Milks, were taken under the above Act in the area of the Wirksworth Urban District Council during the year 1952.

All the Milk samples were classed as satisfactory.

Two samples of "Gluconis" Tonic Drink - an informal sample followed by a formal sample - were declared to contain a proportion of Vitamin B1, but analysis disclosed a serious deficiency. On enquiry it was found to be very old stock and the vendor withdrew the remainder from sale.

Three tins of Luncheon Meat showed evidence of bacterial decomposition and were classed as unfit for human consumption. These findings were reported to your Authority and I understand that the remainder of the stock was surrendered and destroyed.

The remaining samples were satisfactory."

17. FISH - FRYING PREMISES.

The three Fish Frying Premises in this area have all received routine inspections during the year, and I am pleased to be able to report that the conditions obtaining therein are satisfactory.

General complaints of unpleasant effluvia have been received, but I am afraid these are very difficult to deal with especially on hot summer days, and I must add that in all instances I have received the fullest co-operation from the persons concerned.

The procedure of "Voluntary Surrender" has continued to work satisfactorily during the year, and in no instance has it been necessary to take Statutory Action over the condemnation of fish.

18. ICE-CREAM
(HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.
ICE-CREAM REGULATIONS - FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Amazingly enough for a Town of this size the number of Registered Ice-Cream Premises has again increased and the total number of these pre ises on your books is now sixteen. The Medical Officer of Health accompanied me as usual on joint visits of inspection to these premises, and I am pleased to be able to report that a high standard of cleanliness has been maintained. Regular monthly samples have been taken by me and submitted to the County Bacteriologist during 1952 and whenever necessary any questions regarding unsatisfactory samples have been taken up with Retailers, Wholesalers and Producers.

I have made on your behalf 118 visits and inspections to ice-cream premises during 1952, and for your information I produce below a table indicating the results of these samples:-

(1)	Provisional	Grade	1	-	96	samples
(2)	"	"	2	-	18	"
(3)	"	"	3	-	2	"
(4)	"	"	4	-	2	"

I think the Council will agree that these results prove conclusively that in the Wirksworth Urban Area a very high standard indeed is being maintained with regard to the sale of ice-cream and ice-cream products.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Herewith is my Factory Report for the Year 1952.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of: Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c Line No. (7)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	1	6	4	Nil	Nil	1
(11) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	26	24	21	Nil	2
(111) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	3	4	17	Nil	Nil	3
TOTAL		36	45	21	Nil	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars. (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found. Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector. (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector. (6)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c Line No. (8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Overcrowding (S.2).	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4).	7	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient.	9	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	12
TOTAL	60	9	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	60

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work.	M/c Line No.	Section 110			Section 111			
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices Served.	Prosecutions	M/c Line No.
(1)	(2)		(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing apparel Making etc. Cleaning and Washing	13	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	13
	15-44	nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	15-44
TOTAL	70	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	70

Many thanks indeed, once again, to Mr. R.L. Lind, H.M. Inspector of Factories for his continued co-operation.

20. BAKEHOUSES.

The two Bakehouses which I mentioned in my last year's report, continue to produce bread and confectionery in the Wirksworth Urban Area, and my routine visits of inspection have shown that satisfactory standards of cleanliness and hygiene have been maintained.

As I have previously pointed out, one of these establishments consists of modern and hygienic buildings, whilst the other presents a very different picture indeed with regard to the actual structure of the premises. Despite the fact, however, that one works under difficulties whilst the other has the advantage of modern surroundings, I have no cause for complaint with regard to the manner in which either of the two businesses are conducted.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

My thanks are extended to the Members of the Council and to the Officers and Staff of all departments for their assistance during the year and in conclusion I should like to express my appreciation for the co-operation of the Foreman and Workmen of the Public Health Department.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J. TAYLOR.
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.